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# EXPECTATIONS

Serving the Homeless in Jesus' Name Since 1892



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A Note from Ron

#### **CHANGED-LIFE STORY**



## **Beginning The Healing Process For Life!**

Jameson came to us broken after a near-death experience in a local hospital . . . and years of loss.

Sickness, disease, and tragedy robbed him of his closest family members, and "I fell into depression," he says . . . "and started drinking."

Soon, there was nothing left in his life to hold onto: no job, no home, no one to care. "I felt so empty—like giving up," he shakes his head, remembering the absolute isolation and loneliness.

Yet after Jameson came to the Rescue Mission and was welcomed into our Men's New Life Rehabilitation/Transformation Program, he found "hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11). "Though I have kidney failure, I'm starting dialysis soon," he says. "And I'm praying and trusting God, no matter what."

Jameson's prayers, like yours, have never been more vital in this summer of COVID-19.

"I feel like it helps," he nods. "It's helped me throughout this quarantine because this has not been emotionally easy every day. But you take it one day at a time—that works!" he smiles.

Jameson is grateful for all the support you've provided to help save and change lives like his. "I thank everybody that's a part of this



because in one way or another, everyone here has played a part in repairing my life. Because somebody taking time for you brings about a lot of healing."

And Jameson's looking forward to passing on that gift in his new life ahead. "I just hope I'm able to encourage others. Because prayer and caring changes things. I'm definitely grateful."

"It means a lot to know there's a place for me here—somewhere to begin the healing process for my life!"

And this fall, many more like Jameson will come to our door for hope and healing—so thank you for giving, thank you for praying, and thank you for helping provide the healing process for life!

## Your Neighbors Need You NOW!

This summer has been a challenge for so many—especially those neighbors who struggle with hunger, hurt and homelessness. And though the fall months ahead may bring us relief from the pandemic and



other issues of the day, those who are vulnerable on Springfield's streets will face cold days and colder nights with little help . . . and less hope.

In fact, as the temperatures drop, more lives from all across your community will have no place else to turn for help but here—and no one else to look to for hope than a heart like yours!

So please send your best gift today, and stand with us prayerfully and powerfully as we anticipate the busy weeks ahead. Through your gifts and prayers, we'll be ready to meet the need with good food, critical care and the message of new life that's possible in Jesus Christ! *Thanks and blessings.* 



## Mark Your Calendar

Looking Ahead to Your Activities & Opportunities at the Rescue Mission!

#### **OCTOBER 15**

#### Pastor Appreciation Luncheon

Pastors of Greater Springfield, please mark your calendars to attend this special event honoring the vital contributions of our community's "shepherds!"

For specifics, contact Robert Richards by email at rrichards@springfieldrescuemission.org.

#### OCTOBER 1 – NOVEMBER 30

#### **Undie Sunday/Undie Monday**

Each Sunday and Monday in October are special days of giving and grace at the Rescue Mission, as neighbors like you, your church or community group collect NEW underwear, socks and t-shirts for those in need. Drop-off is at 10 Mill Street by November 15. Thanks for participating!

#### SAVE THE DATES ....

#### Thanksgiving Banquet November 25

**Christmas Banquet** December 23

As we look toward the holiday season, your help at our special holiday dinners would be a great opportunity to show your support and share the spirit of the season! Add these dates to your calendar—to sign up, you can call the Rescue Mission at 413-732-0808 or visit us online at springfieldrescuemission.org/ volunteer. Thank you!

#### **OCTOBER 1**

### **Open House for All!**

A Celebration of Service for Ron Willoughby, Executive Director/CEO's Retirement



This is your opportunity to join other friends and ministry partners in sharing words of encouragement and thanks with Ron for his 33 years of faithful service to the Rescue Mission. More information on this event will be available very soon.

"Well done, good and faithful servant!" (Matthew 24:23 NIV)

Become a Sustainers of t

As one Sustainer, Joyce, says, "I had been meaning to do it for a long time, but **COVID-19** was the impetus to actually get started and come alongside as a Sustainer of Hope!" With all that's happened over the past months, your faithful support is even more vital. And becoming a monthly **Sustainer of Hope** member is one of the best ways to make a committed difference to this ministry we share.

To join today, see the back of your reply slip enclosed with this Expectations. We look forward to your membership!





Ronald Willoughby
Executive Director/CEO

My Friend,

As we look ahead to the end of summer, and with fall finally on the horizon, know how crucial your support has been during these difficult months behind us—and how excited we are to be looking ahead with you!

Restoring Lives, Restoring HOPE—With Your Support!

In a season overshadowed by the coronavirus and conflict, your gifts and prayers have made a lifesaving, life-transforming difference by providing rescue, restoration, and renewal in the lives of those we serve in Greater Springfield!

That's why I want to take this opportunity to express my personal thanks for all you've helped provide for those truly in need—and also share their own gratitude with you for your care and compassion!

Too many of these men, women . . . whole families have lost everything and found themselves on the streets with nothing more than empty stomachs and the clothes on their backs. Many have gone days without a meal and know deeply the hopelessness of having no safe, secure place to sleep at night.

But as autumn comes to Western Massachusetts, more lives on the line will come our way—and that's more opportunities for you and me to stay involved in renewing and restoring lives with your love—like Jameson, whose story you can read on pg. 2.

Without support like yours, he could easily have remained in harm's way rather than experience the loving fellowship and bright future found at the Rescue Mission!

Because of caring and compassion like yours, hundreds like Jameson are safe, fed, loved and have graduated to a new life in Jesus Christ—they've found hope and a purpose that can sustain them for eternity!

Your generosity is the foundation of everything accomplished here in Jesus' name: all the meals served to those who come hungry . . . the doors kept open for emergency shelter . . . and the HOPE at the heart of our proven Men's New Life Rehabilitation/Transformation Program.

So please remember how much your support matters as you consider a thoughtful gift today. And know how your partnership makes Springfield Rescue Mission's 128 years of service a special blessing to our community as you help restore lives—restore HOPE! Thanks so much.

Thanking God for you,

Randd Willaughly

"Blessed is he who is kind to the needy." Proverbs 14:21 NIV



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Give today at springfieldrescuemission.org/donate

Connect with us at info@springfieldrescuemission.org

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The goal of the Springfield Rescue Mission since 1892 is to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the hungry, homeless, addicted and poor by introducing them to Christ and helping them apply the Word of God to every area of their lives.



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